COFFEE FARMERS AND COVID-19 IN ETHIOPIA
Survey rounds 1 & 2 | June 2020

Coffee farming households in Ethiopia
- 713 households surveyed across 3 regions
- 80% of households have children who were attending school prior to school closures
- Household includes a member aged 60+:
  - Yes: 23%
  - No: 77%

COVID-19 knowledge and concerns
- Farmers' top COVID-19 concerns:
  - Health concerns: Round 1: 51%, Round 2: 49%
  - Access to education: Round 1: 57%, Round 2: 43%
  - Access to farm inputs: Round 1: 40%, Round 2: 56%
  - Access to jobs: Round 1: 32%, Round 2: 68%
  - Food concerns: Round 1: 36%, Round 2: 64%

1 in 4 farmers are unaware that a person without symptoms can spread COVID-19

More farmers in Sidama report food availability as one of their greatest COVID-19 concerns compared to other regions:
- West Guji: 11%
- Jimma: 14%
- Sidama: 36%

How have coffee farming households been affected so far?
- 57% of households have lost income as a result of COVID-19 since the outbreak began.
- 1 in 3 households that sell crops reported challenges doing so in the 7 days preceding the survey due to:
  - fewer customers
  - issues with transport
  - difficulties social distancing

Transport restrictions affect households’ ability to buy food and carry out farming activities

1 in 8 farmers report difficulties accessing coffee farms

Qualitative findings suggest coffee farming is also affected by:
1. lack of finance to hire labor to do weeding and composting
2. low availability of workers
3. restrictions on public gatherings

How do households cope?
- 88% of households report using coping strategies to cover basic needs. These vary by region:
  - West Guji: Savings-focused strategies most common
  - Jimma: Fewer households report using coping strategies
  - Sidama: Food-based strategies most common

Farmers feel they are worse off compared to one year ago, but are optimistic about the future:
- 70% believe they are worse off financially than they were one year ago
- 80% believe they will be better off financially in one year than they are now